



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
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Inquiry: I have been asked by our Department of Anesthesia to find out if RCPs may be trained by anesthesia to deliver the anesthetic gas Isofluraine in our intensive care unit. They are proposing that one of our Servo 900 ventilators be adapted to deliver this gas, or they will train us to use the anesthesia machine. Reading over the 2000 Laws & Regulations Related to the Practice of Respiratory Care (RCPA), it appears that this would be beyond the scope of practice for a RCP. Would you please respond to this question?

Response: In response to your inquiry regarding RCPs being trained by anesthesia to deliver the anesthetic gas Isofluraine, please be advised that the RCPA prohibits the practice of medicine and surgery by licensed RCPs. Therefore, the administration of Isofluraine for the purpose of inducing general anesthesia is prohibited.

However, the limitation cited above to administering anesthetic agents, including gaseous anesthesia, does not extend to other possible purposes of administering anesthetic agents that do not include the induction of preservation of general anesthesia.

Reference # 2001-C-03